

The North and The North-man

the coronation of King Haakon VII, in the old of Trondhjem, replaces a nation upon the of Europe. For the first time in history, only one partial exception, national Independ- has been achieved without bloodshed, and way and Sweden are entitled to the gratitude humanity.

is interesting and suggestive to note that "Eldest Sons of Woden," the "war lords" of days, should be the first to give such an lesson to the world. The average reader, absorbed in later and superficially greater ests, has, until now, failed to give to these the study they deserve; nor has he real- how great their influence has been, not only making history, but in forming the character y Indo-European race. It is well, therefore, popular attention should have been attracted e three northern kingdoms of Norway, Swe- and Denmark.

let us picture to ourselves the winter of Northern Europe, and days scarcely less when a somber sky bends low above a of ice and rock and wave; while the mad t winds and waters, driving sleet, or snow swift, silent, inexorable as destiny fills all ace between. Let us try to realize amid natural conditions primitive man's struggle stance. So only can we comprehend the y life of Scandinavia—that realm from came—naturally as avalanches thunder their mountains—storm cradled warriors— ers of Roman tyranny, heirs of Roman law; vagers of ancient, the creators of modern ation. So only can we comprehend the gods, vast, vague as fogbanks around a n coast, or war songs, where sounds the of lightning through the pines, the plunge mass in the sea; the rush of warships n the waters.

Scandinavia every royal, every patrician in Europe, is proud to trace ancestry, but less in her "things" or popular assemblies find the germ of modern representative ements. The republics of Greece or of me- italy were in reality the most intolerant les. There is more personal freedom in tinople today than there was in Sparta Leonidas or in Venice when Dandolo pre- To the north we owe personal liberty quality. These and the tenure to almost foot of ground in the civilized world rest quest. It was the Scandinavian who best respect for the rights of war—from strife- g law.

the eighth to the twelfth century, Scandi- ave to Europe conquerors and law-makers, were unjust to confine attention to these t desolation, though generating struggles. g winter passes and rich the life snow has ed; pure the water from ice; genial the forests; with clearest, steadiest luster he polar stars.

the twelfth to the sixteenth century, leav- id history to be largely influenced by its n off-shoot, the parent race exerted little foreign influence. Norway, Sweden and k were absorbed in their own stormy on. Early in the fifteenth century, Olaf of y, dying childless, his sister inherited his and by her marriage united it to Sweden's. ighty years later, Margaret of Denmark, cipate in the ceremony of his coronation, ighed the treaty of union of Calmer, ractically gave to the Dane Sweden and e. After Margaret's death her successors o much distracted by domestic troubles t Sweden successfully, until Christian II o the Danish throne and asserted his dence of his country, the Swedish army eated and Sweden was the Dane's by and fraud, fair words and ruthless deeds, tful, wronged and forgiving lord, that n invited the entire nobility of the realm ates and cities of Germany turned in de- winess his oath, when, after receiving the on, he swore to uphold the Swedish con- and to take no vengeance for the past. ree November days the streets of Stock- re gay with mirth and music, while in the Christian with gracious courtesy and frank ship entertained the nobility. In the of the feasting the gates were suddenly Danish soldiers rushing from their hiding rrounded the palace and guarded every With scarcely a pretense of trial, the admiring guests of the new-crowned e hurried to execution; and in one day ter part of the Swedish nobility was ef- Christian, however, had reckoned wrongly thus strove to secure his conquered n the north no throne rests firm upon a nor is long secured by terror, and one,

at least, of the highest born had escaped the Stockholm shambles.

Gustavus Ericsson of the princely house of Vasa had learned prudence in a bitter school. He was one of the sixteen hostages whom, two years before, in defiance of public faith and private honor, Christian had thrown, loaded with chains into a Danish dungeon. Many times during the year of misery which followed, royal messengers had descended to that dungeon to offer Gustavus, who was scarcely 17, freedom, wealth and honor in their master's service; and as vainly to threaten continued defiance with torture and death. With almost incredible endurance, determination and address Gustavus maintained his health and strength through all the horrors of that imprisonment, and at length effected his escape. He was in hiding when Christian's generous amnesty, gracious invitation was published far and wide. Mistrusting the mercy, scorning the grace, he did not attend the coronation, and thus escaped the massacre in which his father

and kinsmen fell. The year that followed, with its dangers, suffering, hairbreadth escapes, appears a romance or epic.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

Cynthia Ann Parker

Her two sons did not fall in the battle of Pease river. Several years afterward one died on the great plains of Texas. The other son lived to become the famous Comanche chief—Quanah Parker.

He was born in Wichita Falls in 1854. He rules his people on their reservation in the Indian Territory. He speaks the English tongue, is quite advanced in civilization, and owns a well-stocked ranch. Thus ends the tragic story of a stolen girl who made the circuit of the savage west, died an alien among her own, longed for the wild freedom of the estacadoes, and dreamed of an Indian-lover brave enough to sing his death-song.

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